



**U.S. Department of Education
Grant Performance Report (ED 524B)
Project Status Chart**

OMB No. 1890 - 0004
Expiration: 10-31-2007

PR/Award #:
H323A050006

SECTION C - Additional Information *(See Instructions. Use as many pages as necessary.)*

Montana's State Personnel Development Grant involves the work and collaboration of a number of partners. These partners, unchanged since the original proposal, are as follows:

- At the University of Montana, the SPDG collaborates with Dr. Margaret Beebe-Frankenberger in the area of RtI, Susie Morrison in the area of early childhood and Dr. Gail McGregor in the area of Universal Design for Learning (tied to the We Teach All Initiative) and project evaluation activities.
- The university courses in early childhood are also done in collaboration with Part C at Montana's Department of Public Health and Human Services.
- At MSU-Billings, SPDG personnel are collaborating with Dr. Linda Christensen and colleagues to work on the issue of preparing special education teachers to meet content area expectations tied to highly qualified teacher status.
- Parents, Let's Unite for Kids, Montana's parent training and information center, is a partner in this effort.
- Each of the state's Comprehensive System of Personnel Development Regional Councils are collaborating with the SPDG, funding local initiative with SPDG dollars that are aligned with project goals and State Performance Plan indicators.
- Contractors, including personnel from Capital High School in Helena, Montana, and various consultants are providing training in differentiated instruction and co-teaching aligned with the SPDG We Teach All initiative.
- There is a strong partnership between the Division of Special Education within the Office of Public Instruction and Montana's Reading First initiative, Title I and Title II.

The Division of Special Education has a new administrator, Tim Harris. Key staff continue to be, Susan Bailey-Anderson, Nikki Sandve, Tara Ferriter-Smith, and Floy Scott within the Division of Special Education at the Office of Public Instruction. They work under the direction of Division Administrator Tim Harris.

The uncertainty about the level of funding for the next project year is a major factor that will influence the implementation of activities during the 08-09 school year. Budget cuts will require a careful examination of the original work scope in order to identify where/how to compensate for a reduced funding level.